

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



JUNE 21, 2020

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
June 21, 2020
Third Sunday after Pentecost
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proper 7

Prelude: Voluntary on "O How I Love Jesus"

arr. John Rasley, 1990/ R. Wyatt, 2011

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death.
All: **We know that our old self was crucified with him
so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin.**
One: Consider yourselves alive to God in Christ Jesus.
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Opening Hymn: "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

No. 366

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Holy and gracious God,
your steadfast love abides with your people in every age.
You teach us to trust in you
and call us to live in peace with one another.
Show us the way to live grateful lives, without fear,
knowing the true worth of your creation,
including ourselves;
in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to Confession

Confident that we are promised newness of life
through repentance and forgiveness,
let us turn to God, confessing our sin.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Hear our cries to you, O Lord:
for our lack of compassion toward the poor,
have mercy on us;
for our failure to end the destruction of air, water,
soil, and creatures on Earth,
have mercy on us;

(continued on next page)

Prayer of Confession *(continued)*

for our disbelief in your power to make us whole,
have mercy on us;
for making war,
have mercy on us;
for mistrusting your Word,
have mercy on us;
for all that we have done and have not done
out of hardened hearts,
have mercy on us.

Forgive us and renew us.
Guide us into ways that do not deny you
but lead to peace. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison *(singing in unison)*

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Do not be afraid.
The One who was and is and is to come
knows you through and through
and has overcome death and sin to forgive you,
so that you might be delivered into joy that has no end.
Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Prayer for Illumination

O Lord, send now your Spirit into our midst
to entice us and overpower us with the
strength of your word.
We beg for the strength to hear your call
and live according to your will. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13

P. 722 in the Old Testament

O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.

(continued on next page)

First Scripture Reading: *(continued)*

I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."
But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

Anthem: "God of the Sparrow"

No. 272

Duet by Becky Richter & Linda Patterson

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 10:24-39

P.P. 10-11 in the New Testament

"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!"

“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

“For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

Sermon: Christ’s Assurance

Rev. Jim DeMent

Matthew 10:31: “So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.”

Silence and stillness

Congregational Hymn: “How Firm a Foundation”

No. 361

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles’ Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: “Lift High the Cross”

No. 371



We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns that Robert Wyatt will be playing for this “Virtual Worship Service.” All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced, under license, from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990). We encourage you to read and sing along at home, as Robert plays the hymns he has selected with comfort, hope, strength, and courage in, now, the Season after Pentecost. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

Jesus, Thy boundless love to me,
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to Thee,
And reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, Thine alone, I’d live,
Myself to Thee entirely give.

O Love, how gracious is Thy way!
All fear before Thy presence flies;
Care, anguish, sorrow melt away,
Where’er Thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see,
Nothing desire or seek, but Thee.

Oh, grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone!
Oh, may Thy love possess me whole,
My joy, my treasure, and my crown.
All coldness from my heart remove;
My every act, word, thought, be love.

God of the Sparrow

God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life

God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save

God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word.
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine."

Lift High the Cross

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
The Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Each newborn servant of the Crucified
Bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Your death has brought us life eternally.

So shall our song of triumph ever be;
Praise to the Crucified for victory!

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.



Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Kathryn Amsler

Gloria Aouelle

Ruth Ann Barnard

Roxanna Hauschild

Claire Heger

Leonard "Mac" McCameron

Roland Merrill

Rickey Ramseur

Nathan Galvan
(Son of Leila Galvan)

Angie Longoria
(Kids for Christ Parent)

Julianna Longoria
(Kids for Christ Disciple)

Samantha Skaggs
(Niece of Roxanna and Henry Hauschild)

Billy Ruddock
(Prior FPC Member)

John & Jere Swoboda
(Prior FPC Members)

Eugenia (Jean) Whitaker
(Mother of Robert Whitaker)

Carol Wisdom
(Daughter of Lea Lenz)

**For caregiving concerns—please contact:
Jack Kleinecke (361. 212.3229); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)**

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

**All activities suspended,
pending further notice,
due to public health concerns.**

FPC Victoria Servant Leadership Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator
Jack Kleinecke, Clerk of Session
Billy Leske, Building & Grounds
Dawn Neel, Christian Education
Linda Patterson, Worship
Marsha Ricottilli, Asst. Clerk, Mission & Outreach
Susan Salinas, Caregiving & Fellowship
Jim Stokes, Finance
Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship
Bill Wilkinson, Personnel

Other

Paula Leske, Presbyterian Women
Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School
Shelley Hartman, Dawn Neel, and Helen Resendez,
Kids for Christ, Vacation Bible School

Bulletin Cover

The cover of our Bulletin, in a modern, contemporary style, evokes Christ's admonition, "... whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38). Of course, the cross of which Jesus spoke was a horrible instrument of torture and not the least bit attractive. As is made clear in our passage today from the Gospel According to Matthew, however, the cross becomes less frightening and more bearable when we view it with our Lord's assurance, "do not be afraid" (Matthew 10:31).

Christ's beautiful promise is that those who do take up the cross become his worthy disciples; those who lose their life for Christ's sake will find it.

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Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster
Tasha Wolf, Office Administrator

Office Hours

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